

ABSTRACT

An ATM Packet Access Gateway (ATM PAG) system manages an ATM bearer path extending between ATM endpoints participating, for example, in a VoATM call. The system includes an ATM PAG having a first ATM bearer connection termination for terminating a first bearer connection with a first ATM endpoint, and a second ATM connection termination for terminating a second bearer connection with a second ATM endpoint. A call control entity is associated with the ATM PAG and communicates call control instructions thereto. The call control instructions include instructions for logically concatenating the first and second ATM bearer connections into an active ATM bearer path extending between the first ATM endpoint and the second ATM endpoint. A Media Access Gateway (MAG) function of the ATM PAG is responsible for establishing the connections that form the ATM bearer path. An ATM switch function of the ATM PAG moves bearer traffic ATM packet payloads over the active ATM bearer path.